



## South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

1835 Assembly St., Suite 1008 · Columbia, SC 29201

(800) 424-9406 · FAX (803) 765-5310 · [www.nass.usda.gov/sc](http://www.nass.usda.gov/sc)

**Issue:** SC-CW002908

**Released:** July 21, 2008 , after 4 pm

**Week Ending:** July 20, 2008

**Cooperating Agencies:**

Clemson University  
SC State Climatology Office  
Farm Service Agency

### GENERAL

This past week, South Carolina received spotted showers bringing limited short term relief to much of the area. Precipitation totals were minimal across the state, but a few areas received an inch or more of rain. N Myrtle Beach, Charleston and Savannah, GA received most of the rains from Tropical Storm Cristobal. Average soil moisture ratings were 30% very short, 39% short, 30% adequate, and 1% surplus. There was a statewide average of 6.3 days that were suitable for field work.

### FIELD CROPS

It is too late for most **CORN**, across the state but continued rain may help late planted fields yield a fair crop. Conditions were diminished some, and were reported as 52% very poor, 20% poor, 23% fair, and 5% good. Spotted showers bring limited short term relief for, **COTTON** as time for recovery shortens due to advanced blooming. Conditions were 8% very poor, 23% poor, 39% fair, 29% good, and 1% excellent. Again this week, **PEANUT** conditions continued to see improvement. Conditions were 4% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 51% good, and 3% excellent. **SOYBEANS** condition has improved considerably from just a couple of weeks ago. Conditions were 22% very poor, 23% poor, 35% fair, 19% good, and 1% excellent. **SWEET POTATOES** were 10% very poor, 15% poor, 50% fair, and 25% good. **TOBACCO** was 89% topped and 16% of the crop has been harvested thus far. Conditions were 2% very poor, 8% poor, 41% fair, 44% good, and 5% excellent.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK**, in general are suffering from extremely low soil moisture, any rains received have quickly evaporated, follow up rains are needed to help reduce the stress caused by the drought, and extremely high temperatures. **PASTURES** were showing slight declines across the Palmetto state. **PEACH** conditions improved more this past week. The peach harvest was 55%. **VEGETABLE** harvests were winding down for cucumbers, and tomatoes. The Salmonella scare has destroyed the tomato market and local growers have abandoned their crop.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending July 20, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Harvested	84	89	89	Sorghum, Headed	60	68	73
Corn, Silked	97	100	99	Sorghum, Turned Color	25	33	34
Corn, Doughed	62	75	78	Soybeans, Emerged	99	100	99
Corn, Matured	4	4	11	Soybeans, Bloomed	21	21	26
Cotton, Squared	80	77	82	Soybeans, Pods Set	4	5	8
Cotton, Bolls Set	30	13	27	Tobacco, Topped	89	85	93
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	57	66	67	Tobacco, Harvested	16	16	22
Peaches, Harvested	55	57	53	Tomatoes, Fresh, Harvested	94	93	95
Peanuts, Pegged	75	71	74	Watermelons, Harvested	83	78	82
Snapbeans, Fresh, Harvested	98	97	98				

### Condition for Week Ending July 20, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples	20	10	50	20	0	Peaches	1	10	27	59	3
Cantaloup	13	17	42	28	0	Peanuts	4	9	33	51	3
Corn	52	20	23	5	0	Sorghum	39	23	31	7	0
Cotton	8	23	39	29	1	Soybeans	22	23	35	19	1
Hay	24	33	37	6	0	Sweet Potatoes	10	15	50	25	0
Livestock	5	16	50	29	0	Tobacco	2	8	41	44	5
Pasture	30	26	30	14	0	Watermelons	9	24	29	38	0

## **South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending July 20, 2008**

Monday's eastward moving boundary set off scattered thunderstorms from the Midlands to the coast. Localized flooding was reported in Berkeley County. The feature became nearly stationary on Tuesday with the focus of stormy weather along the beaches. Ft. Moultrie, on Sullivans Island, measured a rainfall total of 1.93 inches. Behind the boundary, morning low temperatures cooled into the lower 60's across the Piedmont into the Upstate. Locations away from the immediate coast observed sunny, warm weather. A tropical low pressure area off Florida's east coast was upgraded to a depression Friday before being classified Tropical Storm Cristobal on Saturday at 2:00 p.m., located approximately 100 miles east of Charleston. Most of the expected heavy rains remained offshore as it passed northeast Sunday. Myrtle Beach reported peak winds of 29 mph. Hot, dry air, drawn into the departing wake of Cristobal sent temperatures on Sunday to 100 degrees at several locations over central South Carolina. The state average temperature for the period was near normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 101 degrees at Clinton and Saluda on July 20. The lowest official temperature reported was 57 degrees at Lake Bowen on the morning of July 15. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.60 inches at Edisto Beach ending at 7:00 a.m. on July 17. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.3 inches.

**SOIL:** 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 82 degrees.

**RIVERS AND SURF:** South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 84 degrees.

### **Precipitation**

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.00	18.80	-10.2
Columbia	0.00	20.31	-7.5
Orangeburg	0.34	21.06	-6.7
Charlotte, NC	0.00	20.18	-4.2
Augusta, GA	0.00	19.22	-6.8
Florence	0.23	22.59	-2.2
N Myrtle Beach	1.56	25.57	2.6
Charleston	1.05	21.30	-6.1
Savannah, GA	1.37	19.24	-7.5

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



USDA-NASS  
SOUTH CAROLINA FIELD OFFICE  
1835 Assembly St. Suite 1008  
Columbia, SC 29201-2449  
Official Business

Address Service Requested